



BERLIN, GERMANY (May 2017)

Closing of the third part of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA 1-3)

Ms. Stacey Kimmig

Thank you Chairs, my name is Stacey Kimmig and I am speaking on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency.

As we sit here working to implement the promises Governments made in the Paris Agreement, our colleagues in Fiji are mobilizing to bring a strong Pacific voice to the upcoming COP23 -- a voice which serves as a daily reminder that our work requires action and urgency -- which reminds us that climate change is a matter of survival and thus a matter of human rights.

The Paris Rulebook has to move us to action and it must be anchored in justice and rights. Developed country Parties, we remind you that your commitments currently on the table are insufficient to meet the existential threat facing people in Fiji and countries around the world.

As we will not be present at the upcoming roundtable discussions on mitigation actions and NDCs, adaptation communication, the transparency framework, matters relating to the global stocktake as well as on the effective operation of the committee to facilitate implementation and promote compliance. We remind Parties NOW that the Paris Agreement acknowledged gender equality, the empowerment of women, intergenerational equity, human rights, the rights of indigenous peoples, and a just transition of the workforce in the guiding paragraphs of the agreement. Parties must consider how this will be reflected in a comprehensive framework for implementation.

In closing, we would like to join other Observers here in expressing deep concern with the decision for exclusion in upcoming roundtable discussions. We are here in this process to ensure that the Paris rulebook promotes the rights and needs of all people, particularly women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities. We have worked side by side with Parties, for many years, providing critical inputs to effective climate action in this process. What signal for a transparent and inclusive process does this send? Have you forgotten why you are here and for whom you speak?

Thank you